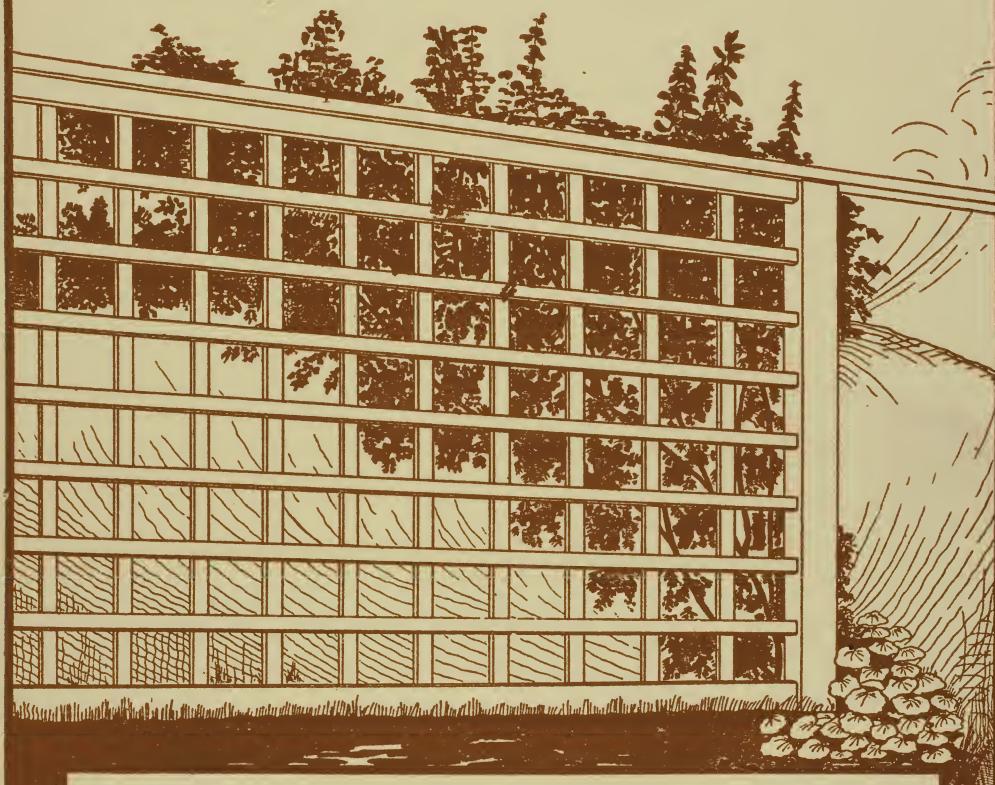


California Garden

Mrs. C. W. Darling (M) 6-22



IN THIS NUMBER

The Fall Flower Show

In Our Elfin Woodlands	By Ralph W. Sumner
Gophers and Gardens	By G. R. Gorton
Thomas Nuttall	By Lena B. Hunsicker
The Cotton Plant	By Fred W. Herbert
Boys and Girls Page	

OCTOBER, 1921

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The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

Vol. 13

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, OCT., 1921

No. 4

THE FALL FLOWER SHOW

Successful flower shows are becoming the rule rather than the exception the last year or two, but it is a fact that the Floral Association is showing distinct progress in this direction. The recent exhibit, held in the Cristobal Building, Balboa Park, was acclaimed, both by visitors and exhibitors to be the "best yet". The exhibits were better staged, and the quality, although it was considered that the season was too far advanced for best blooms, was excellent. The lath house plants —begonias especially, were better than for many years past. The exhibit from the gardens of A. D. Robinson formed the central and most conspicuous feature of the show. His display was arranged in and on a hexagonal frame of bamboo, and gave the impression of a miniature lath house. Particularly beautiful were the hanging baskets of rex begonias, with leaves suggesting giant caladiums in size and rare old silks, brocades and tapestries in color and texture. The winner in the class of "best one rex begonia" was a magnificent specimen of President Carnot, bolder in colorings and thriftier in habit of growth than many of the other varieties. Altogether some fifteen or twenty hanging baskets were displayed in this one exhibit, both rex and fibrous varieties being used.

In the exhibit of lath house plants from the Frevert garden were begonias, ferns, gloxinias, sanseverias, some exceptionally well grown plants forming the major part of the group. A conspicuous and beautiful feature was a hanging basket of Rex magnifica, the name being its best description. The exhibit was not entered in competition.

The award for the best one fibrous begonia went to a beautiful specimen of M. de Lessps, property of Mrs. Elba Reeves.

Adjoining the lath house display was the very interesting class of decorated dining tables. A dozen or so entries in this class displayed much originality and taste in design and execution. The seasonal note seemed to be dominant, and so there was a Halloween table by Mrs. W. B. Shropshire, worked out in marigolds entirely, different varieties being used to obtain the shades of orange and yellow desired. Accessories such as a few witches, black cats, caldrons and other time-

honored bits of symbolism added to the scheme of things, although the design was not dependent upon them. Hollowed-out pumpkins of appropriate size furnished "flower bowls" where needed. The judges showed their appreciation of the table by awarding it a first prize.

The table to which second award was made was of a dainty design, daintily worked out in maiden-hair ferns, begonias and cornflowers, a really charming effect. This table was decorated by Mrs. Marcus Miller.

The seasonal idea was further developed in an autumn table,—a harvest festival effect, very original and attractive, and a Christmas table,—the last not entered in competition, but solely as an interesting design, as it was not a floral design. The effect of trees hung with icicles was obtained from an ingenious fashioning of strips of tinfoil into the proper form.

Considering the lateness of the season, or for that matter, in many instances not considering the lateness of the season, the quality of the blooms in the dahlia classes was very high, some exceptionally fine. The blooms from the Cushman gardens were in this latter class, though not entered in competition, as the owner thereof was a show official.

In the amateur class Miss Mould won a well-deserved first on best display of dahlias on an exhibit of "quality blooms" which would have been considered good at any time of year. Mr. C. L. Cass exhibited a large variety of types of San Diego County seedlings, all meritorious, to which the judges had no difficulty in awarding a first in its class. The first award for best arrangement went to Mrs. J. W. Sefton for a basket of Doazons.

The exhibit of the City Park Department, under the able supervision of Mr. J. W. Morley was easily one of the "high spots" of the show. A conspicuous feature of their exhibit was a bed of yellow chrysanthemums, flanked by a border of veronicas, and with a center of coleus in good variety, and well-grown plants. Zinnias, some of the finest asters we have ever had the privilege of seeing, and the quaint little Chinese lantern peppers were some of the colorful aspects of the display. A miniature pond with a background of palms,

pennisetum, coleus, and a border of the charming Exacum affine in the foreground elicited many expressions of approval from the visitors. The park collection of seedling dahlias, from several years' selection of their own seed, contained representatives of almost every class, and certainly every color and color-combination possible to dahlias, a large proportion of which were really beautiful blooms.

The chrysanthemum class was not large, but very select, and some excellent blooms were shown from the gardens of Miss Mould, Mrs. Strahlmann and others. Mrs. Strahlmann carried away the first award on the disbudded type of "Mums", and displayed other good blooms in the other classes. However, no award was made in the class of "garden" chrysanthemums, due to misunderstanding on the part of the entrants as to the difference between the two classes, to-wit: the disbudded" or florists' type and the "garden" type. We pause here to clarify this for the benefit of future exhibitors. As we see it, the first type is largely self-described, and should contain the single-bloom-to-a-stem type produced by disbudding—the type ordinarily offered by florists, although, of course, the entries in this class would be only of flowers of this type grown by amateurs. The "garden" type, is that in which the flowers have been allowed to take their natural form and arrangement without disbudding.

In the zinnia class, and the zinnia growers will blush to have this known, the first award for best display went to a fourteen-year-old girl, Miss "Betty" Shropshire, for what was, so far as we know, her first exhibit at a flower show, but what were also very meritorious blooms.

In the professional class the honors were spread around quite generally. For feature display the award to F. A. Bode was for a very attractive grouping of a considerable variety of subjects around an illuminated pond, while the award for the best collection of twenty-five shrubs went to Miss Sessions for a very educational exhibit of planting material.

A special class was created to admit entry of unique designs in immortelles by Parmenter's Everlasting Flower Shop.

The community exhibit idea was taken hold of rather hesitantly by a number of localities outside the boundaries of San Diego proper. The idea is our adopted child, and we feel as if we should nourish it and help it to grow to generous proportions. Such exhibits are of inestimable value in demonstrating the diversity of ornamentals it is possible to grow under the widely varying climatic and soil conditions found in Southern California. There is a considerable number of other communities who are even now planning for their exhibits at the spring show, and the competition promises to be keen.

No account of the past show is complete,

however, without a word of appreciation of the faithful and untiring work of the various committees in charge of the different phases of the display. The success of the show was absolutely dependent upon the application of the personnel of these committees to the matter in hand, and the show itself was mute evidence that they "fainted not".

The detailed list of awards follows:

Section A—For Professionals

Class 1—Best feature display: First F. A. Bode, San Diego; trophy, silver cup.
Class 2—Best collection of 25 shrubs: First, Miss K. O. Sessions; second, F. A. Bode.
Class 3—Best collection of 15 vines: First, Miss K. O. Sessions; second, F. A. Bode.
Class 5—Best specimen of fern: First, no ward; second, Miss K. O. Sessions.

Class 8—Best decorative plant: First, Miss K. O. Sessions.

Class 10—Best pair of tub or urn plants standing exposure: First, no award; second, F. A. Bode.

Class 12—Best collection of begonias, cut or potted: First, Miss K. O. Sessions.

Class 13—Best collection of dahlias: Second, H. E. Sies, Point Loma.

Class 14—Best collection of San Diego county seedling dahlias: First, H. E. Sies.

Section B—For Amateurs

Class 16—Best display dahlias: First, Miss E. Mould, 4059 Albatross street; trophy, cutting basket; second, K. L. Gregg, Otay.

Class 17—Best three varieties cactus, one bloom each: First, Mrs. J. E. Jones, Oceanside; second, Miss Hawley, Mission Beach.

Class 18—Best three varieties "Decorative", one bloom each: First, P. H. Tyler, Ocean Beach.

Class 21—Best six bloom "Pompons": First, W. C. Lawrence, 3036 L street; second, Miss Martha Frost, 2456 Broadway.

Class 23—Best collection San Diego county seedling, one bloom each: First, Charles L. Cass, Morena; second, Miss Helen F. Woods, Mission Beach.

Class 25—Best one bloom cactus: First, Mrs. J. E. Jones, Oceanside; second, Miss Helen F. Woods, Mission Beach.

Class 26—Best one bloom Decorative: First, Miss E. Mould, 4090 Albatross street; second, Mrs. F. B. Hobart, La Playa.

Class 27—Best one bloom peony: First, P. H. Tyler, Ocean Beach; second, Miss E. Mould, 4090 Albatross street.

Class 30—Best one bloom San Diego county seedling: First, Miss Helen F. Woods, Mission Beach; second, Esther Stewart.

Class 31—Best vase, basket or other arrangement, dahlias only: First, Mrs. J. F. Sefton, Point Loma; trophy, Fuller pottery flower bowl; second, P. H. Tyler, Ocean Beach.

Section C—For Amateurs

Class 33—Best display of zinnias: First, Elizabeth Shropshire, Point Loma, trophy, oriental pottery jar.

Class 35—Best six blooms of pink zinnias: First, no award; second, P. H. Tyler, Ocean Beach.

Class 36a—Best six blooms, yellow-shaded zinnias: First, P. H. Tyler, Ocean Beach.

Class 37—Best six blooms any other color zinnias: First, no award; second, Mrs. Nancy Banning, Point Loma.

Class 38—Best vase, basket or other arrangement of zinnias: First, Miss Hortense Coulter, 3152 Second street, trophy, ornamental flower basket; second, R. F. McKinney, El Cajon; special, Mrs. F. A. Young, 2825 B street; special, Frank Zahn, 3872 Fifth street.

Class 39a—Best display of garden chrysanthemums: First, no award; second, Miss Esther Stewart, 1940 Market street.

Class 39b—Best display of disbudded or "florist type" chrysanthemums: First, Mrs. E. Strahlmann, 2415 E street; second, Miss E. Mould, 4090 Albatross street.

Class 39c—Best display of pompon chrysanthemums: First, Mrs. E. Strahlmann, 2415 E street; second, Mrs. A. S. Bridges, Loma Portal.

Continued on page 8

BULB SHOW SOON

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

In Our Elfin Woodlands

By RALPH W. SUMNER

Did you ever watch a big plow horse drink when really thirsty? He plunges his big velvety muzzle deep into the cool water, almost half way up to his eyes, and pulls deep and long. I cannot think what he seems to enjoy more than that refreshing drink, unless it be his grain when he gets to the barn. I cannot say just the reason for it, but this afternoon when I spent a little time out in the Elfinwoods,—this is September 30th and it has been raining since last night—the picture of a fine, big animal quenching his great thirst came before me as I watched the dry-as-powder earth drink up the millions of rain-drops. It was solid enjoyment to feel that every plant, shrub and tree in Southern California was getting the dust washed out of its eyes and hair, and that their roots would soon be sending a freshet of moisture to every vein. I think the thought that the network of tiny rootlets of the "Mesa Moss" (*Selaginella cinerascens*), was sponging up a goodly amount, appealed to me as much as anything. Just now there is little danger of soil-washing, but later when the soil is full of water, it is this modest little ground cover that acts as a veritable dam to the surplus water, absorbing it and holding it back, with the aid of other roots, from rushing pell-mell down hill carrying rocks and dirt with it. All summer this ashy gray little plant has seemed dead and useless, but this rain will start fresh green tips to spreading in all directions, and with new roots to assist, it continues to increase its usefulness.

It was a very refreshing walk I had with the leaves all washed clean. Little water crystals filled with light quivered from every twig and leaf, the little needle-like leaves of "Chamise" were pointed with shining beads, an almost perfect spiderweb, one of the big round webs, was indescribably beautiful. Each graceful line of the wonderful pattern was hung with little bubbles of reflected light. It carried a goodly weight of water, and yet it seemed airy and light, at the same time exhibiting great strength for all its pliability. It was decidedly fascinating and although I had seen many before in a similar state of decoration, I could not leave it at once.

Now is the time to watch for the little white and brown flowers of the "Mesa Saxifrage" (*Jepsonia Parryi*), for it will quickly spring up from its drouth-resisting bulbs, and you will find it often in little colonies on the north side of some hummock or just as

the canyon side starts down. It is the first flower of the season, and, I have no doubt that tonight, while I am writing this, out there in the dark a little pink bud is even now making ready to unfold, when the sunshine of tomorrow bids. What right have we humans to be gloomy over anything, with such optimism right before our eyes?

The "Lemonade-berry" (*Rhus integrifolia*) is a spring bloomer, but right now little clusters of berry-like, tight folded, pink buds are waiting for its cue to unfold. I spoke of this interesting fact last month, in regard to Willow buds, but it is such a continual wonder, this being ready so far in advance, that its appeal is never lost.

Just now the fall bloomer, "Chaparral Broom" (*Baccharis sarathroides*), is breaking open its tiny tight buds of creamy white. This broom-like looking shrub is a bright green, and is very noticeable among the dark green of other companions. As the seed matures you will notice that some of them are almost a solid mass of white feathery pappus. (Pappus is the parachute by which tall composite flowers spread their seed on the wings of the wind.) Other individuals will look dull and not so feathery, but they have been an important factor in this mass of bloom on shrub number one, for they are the stamen bearing plants and have fertilized the female blossoms by sending pollen on the back of an insect or by the wind. Even you carry on your hands or clothing the life-giving germ from one plant to another.

Of all the attractiveness of nature the one thing that appeals most to most people in the Fall is the beautiful coloring of Autumn tints, of decided yellows, and reds and browns. These are mostly to be found in the back country, where more deciduous shrubs and trees grow. Here in our city gardens, however, we have, "Boston Ivy", "Virginia Creeper", certain "Maples" and "Poplars". Out in our canyons and stream bottoms are the "Willows", "Sycamores", "Cottonwoods". In the mountains the "Black Oaks", "Ash", "Basket Bush", "Poison Oak" and many others.

The following quotation from Harriet W. Durbin beautifully describes the Autumn: "Deep breaths of meadow sweetness gusting by—

A willful breeze the quivering aspen shakes,
And turns the ribbon grass to sabers keen;
Unseen, some thrifty honey-seekers makes

Low rumbling through a tangled flower screen;

Across the country bides a sunny calm,
As in the shelter of an angel's wing.
The ruffling gales of daily trial cease;
All is as if a voice had whispered,
"Peace."

GOPHERS AND GARDENS

By G. R. Gorton,
County Horticultural Commissioner.

It not infrequently happens that the owner of a home garden, be it of fruits, vegetables, or ornamentals, suffers proportionately more from the depredations of gophers than does a commercial farmer or fruit grower. However, with the home gardener, the matter is not an economic one,—except for the actual value of the plants destroyed—as the revenue derived from home gardens is largely in the currency of satisfaction and health, rather than in "legal tender". The fact that the gopher is a serious economic pest in commercial agriculture and horticulture taking a toll of possibly eight or ten millions of dollars annually does not interest the amateur gardener, except in a general way, but he is genuinely and directly interested in methods of control. The usual and quite natural mistake made by the amateur in combating garden pests is to use a method which has proved successful against one or more of the other enemies of his garden, but which is usually not efficient against the pest then under consideration. At least a partial knowledge of life history and feeding habits is important if the maximum of results is to be obtained. In the case of the pocket gopher even the anatomical "design" has to be considered if certain methods of control are employed.

Probably the most familiar weapon of defense is the trap, and probably the most familiar trap is the Maccabee type, although there are a number of other types occasionally seen. Trapping, is the operation if skillfully performed, is efficient. The secret of success is, of course, as in any other trapping, to place the traps properly. Usually it is best to locate the main runway—that is, the tunnel which lies parallel to the surface of the ground and at a depth varying from five to fifteen inches under the surface. Two traps should be used, one on each side of one of the lateral runways which come to the surface at right angles to the main or "feeding runway", as it is usually designated. The probing method, described later, may be used to locate this feeding runway. Sometimes even when the tunnel has been located, and the trap properly placed, failure results and the trap found sprung and empty, or dug around. This is due usually to the fact that an old or trap-wise gopher has been encountered, and it is necessary to meet cun-

ning with cunning. The usual method is to alter the standard Maccabee trap by breaking the treadle loose where it is soldered onto the side wires of the trap, bend it so that it lies parallel to the trap when set, move it to a central position, and shorten the trigger accordingly. When set, the trap is now so changed that it will be sprung by being stepped upon rather than by the nose of the gopher.

Poisoning as a commercial method has in many instances superseded the trapping, principally because of the saving in time which is possible. It is, however, open to the objection that if a dog or cat should happen to eat a poisoned rodent it would probably prove fatal. If reasonable precautions are taken to keep such animals away from the poisoned area for a few days, this danger may be obviated. The modus operandi for poisoning is to locate the feeding runway by probing with a sharp instrument about an inch in diameter—a sharpened broomstick is excellent—two or three inches from the flat side of the mound, which is not ordinarily circular in outline. Prepare baits by cutting carrots, sweet potatoes or parsnips into pieces about an inch or so long and half an inch in diameter. Dampen by pouring water over and draining and sprinkle with the United States standard strychnin-saccharin mixture, viz. $\frac{1}{8}$ oz. strychnin, 1-80 oz. saccharin. If desired this mixture may be obtained at cost

Continued on page 6

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The September Gardens

THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Mary Matthews.

This is a very favorable month to reconstruct your garden. Get rid of all weeds that have started since the last rain—we all have some weeds in our gardens,—turn the soil over to at least a spade's depth wherever vacant and work in, if needed, some good fertilizer. In spots where bulbs are planted or seedlings are coming up it is best to use a trowel and work round them carefully. Work in bone meal around the clumps of bulbous things and if the ground gets very dry before the next rain give a good watering.

Continue to put in any bulbs that you may yet have on hand. This is a good month to put in Spanish Iris, also Anemones and Ranunculus, though either of these can be kept out of the ground for a longer period than most of the bulbs. When planted they like a cool, rather moist situation, and a fertile soil. Be sure and soak the tubers several hours in tepid water and plant them with the fangs or points downward.

Numbers of the half-hardy annuals may be sown now in boxes and can be brought into bloom in the early spring. Many of the choice delphiniums, though classed as perennial, will bloom next summer if sown now,—the belladonna hybrids are among the best of the light blues. Mignonette, cornflowers, scarlet flax, stocks for late blooming, calendulas, snap dragons, can all go in this month. Plant any of the hardy shrubs that you may want in your garden, and though they may not show leaf growth right away they will be making roots and will flourish in the early spring. This is a good time also to put in nature shrubs,—we have so many beautiful ones that we pass by with unseeing eyes though elsewhere they are considered choice and rare. The hole for the shrub should always be more than large enough to take the roots straightened out in their natural position. See that you have good drainage, have your soil loose and friable, and well incorporated with manure before putting back. There are numerous beautiful berried shrubs to be seen around town that you might make a note of if you have room in your yard. We are so apt to crowd things,—we want everything we see,—one or two good shrubs allowed to grow in a natural manner, spreading in all directions if so inclined, are far more effective than a dozen all bunched together. Iris Germanica, also the spuria group, that is to say the fibrous-rooted and moisture-loving ones, should go in this month.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

It is seldom we are treated to such favorable weather conditions so early in the season, and the "call" for the garden has been very strong the last couple of weeks. With that wonderful growing feeling in the air that is only brought about by rain, there is an added feeling of pleasure to those who are fortunate enough to be able to devote plenty of time to garden work, and an additional urge to the less fortunate ones to make the most of the occasional half hour they can spend in the garden.

With the uniform wetting of the whole surface of the ground only resulting from rain, there is a wonderful chance for a thorough clean up and cultivation of all the nooks and corners usually neglected or passed over, when it takes a special effort with hose and hoe to accomplish the desired result. In addition to this, a general cultivation of the whole garden to get rid of the large crop of young weeds and conserve moisture will be found very beneficial to all growing crops. This month is the right time to start your strawberry patch. If you can get good thrifty stock, the well-tried Brandywine Strawberry is a good one, being a semi-everbearer, a good producer with good-sized berries of fine flavor. The Carolina and Progressive, both everbearing varieties, are very highly recommended. By planting any of these varieties now, you should have berries ready for the table next April or May. Strawberries can do with liberal manuring and watering, and by using a mulch of well-rotted strawy manure, which is gradually worked in by irrigation and cultivation you can prevent baking of the ground, and at the same time provide the necessary plant food to promote the best results. According to the amount of room you have, you can set your plants from 8 to 12 inches apart in the rows, and rows from 2 to 3 feet apart.

Rhubarb roots can also go in now in well manured soil, planting about 3 feet apart, half a dozen good roots being a fair supply for the average family.

Where the location is high you can still plant a few potatoes, and continue to put in all the hardy vegetables such as peas, Broad Windsor or Canadian Wonder beans, turnips, beets, carrots, cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, radish, etc.

October is one of the best months for setting out onion and garlic sets. We have all

Where already planted, cut out the old bloom stalks, if needed, divide the clumps and renew the soil. Under the spuria class, come Ochrelucea, aurea monerii, and mon spur, which give a good range of color. This class and the bulbous Iris, that is to say Spanish Iris, and the wonderful Dutch hybrids now to be had, also the little Iris pavonia, the Peacock Iris, so-called, have always done better with me than any other class, though this year I am trying on several new things in the Iris line, and hope to increase my list,—elsewhere wonderful things are being done with Iris.

Trying out new things is one of the chief pleasures and excitements of gardening; of course we do not want to neglect the old and well-tried things that have furnished us with blooms at all times, but always have one or more novelties as a side line.

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heard the wonderful claims made for the latter from a health standpoint, so you had better acquire "the habit".

If you have any ground that you intend using later in the season, apply a good coat of manure to be worked in after a time, and if you intend planting any fruit trees or ornamental plants during the winter, prepare the ground now by deep spading and manuring.

GOPHERS AND GARDENS

Continued from page 4

from the Horticultural Commissioner's office. After the feeding runway has been located by probing, the bait piece may be dropped into the hole made by the probe—no digging is necessary—and the opening covered with a stone or lump of dirt in such a way that the soil does not drop back into the hole.

Methods other than those described are sometimes used with varying degrees of success—the two commoner ones being asphyxiation and drowning by flooding the burrows. The weak points in both these methods is much the same. The fact that a single gopher may construct several hundred feet of tunnels is a serious handicap to either of these means of control. Add to this the fact that the gopher is capable of "plugging" against either water or poisonous gases before either has reached him and it is not difficult to see why these two methods fail of the desired result.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, of California Garden, published monthly at Point Loma, Calif., for October 1, 1921, State of California, County of San Diego. Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared G. R. Gorton, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor of the California Garden and that the following is to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., or the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers, are:

Publisher: San Diego Floral Association, P. O. Box 323, San Diego.

Editor: G. R. Gorton, Court House.

Managing Editor: None. Business Managers: None.

2. That the owners are:

..San Diego Floral Association, P. O. Box 323, San Diego. G. R. Gorton, Pres., Court House. (Miss) Mary Matthews, Secy., 3315 31st St., San Diego. (No stock issued).

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1% or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders, and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the

Continued on page 10

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

THOMAS NUTTALL —“Old Curious.”

Lena B. Hunzicker.
San Diego Public Library.

It is, indeed, a quaint and charming picture that Richard Henry Dana gives us in his well known classic. “Two Years Before the Mast”, of Thomas Nuttall, mischievously nicknamed “Old Curious” by the sailors of the “Pilgrim” because of his “zeal for curiosities”.

It was on the beach of San Diego, probably near La Playa, that Dana saw the professor strolling one day, barefooted, his trousers rolled up to his knees, a sailor’s pea-jacket topped with a straw hat, collecting shells and stones. Dana, who was a Harvard undergraduate, recognized him as Professor Nuttall of Cambridge, and says he was the last person he should have expected to find in California.

“The next day,” Dana writes, “just as we were about to shove off from the beach, he came down to the boat, in the rig I have described, with his shoes in his hand and his pockets full of specimens. “I knew him at once, though I should not have been more surprised to have seen the Old South steeple shoot up from the hide house.”

Much speculation about Prof. Nuttall was rife among the sailors who had great difficulty in understanding what he was about. Said one of them, “Oh, ‘vast there!—You don’t know anything about them craft. I’ve seen them colleges, and know the ropes. They keep all such things for curiosities and study ‘em and have men a’purpose to go an get ‘em. This old chap knows what he’s about. He ain’t the child you take him for. He’ll carry all these things to the college, and if they are better than any they have had before, he’ll be head of the college. Then, by and by, somebody else will go after some more, and of they beat him, he’ll have to go again, or else give up his berth. That’s the way they do it. This old cove knows the ropes. He has worked a traverse over ‘em and come ‘way out here, where nobody’s ever been before, and where they’ll never think of coming.”

So much for Dana’s picture of him. Records show that Thomas Nuttall, called by Henry Shaw the “Father of Western American botany”, was born at Long Preston, Settle, Yorkshire, England, on the fifth of January in 1786. Born into a family of moderate circumstances he was apprenticed early to a printer. But the career of printer did not appeal to him for from youth he was fond of study. The result of his apprenticeship was dissatisfaction and he left his work and went to London. Unable to find work here, he was for a time almost destitute.

In 1807, at the age of twenty-two, he sailed for America, landing in Philadelphia.

At this time, we are told, he knew nothing of botany, but soon after his arrival through the acquaintance and encouragement of Prof. B. S. Barton, he became interested in what

he called “this amiable science” and was admitted as member of the Philadelphia Academy of Science.

His first botanic excursions were to the lower part of the Delaware peninsula and the coast region of Virginia and North Carolina.

In 1811 he undertook the first of his long excursions of research. This was a trip up the Missouri River in company with John Bradley, the naturalist. It was a dangerous and very hard trip, naturally in a country little known by white men and populated with many tribes of Indians, yet, we are told, “they brought back many treasures of seeds, plants and other objects of interest.”

The next eight years were spent in Philadelphia and vicinity. His summers were taken up collecting and his winters in studying these collections. Although he did not publish it until 1818, he spent much of his time preparing a manuscript on “Genera of the North American Plants.”

In 1818 he left for Arkansas and Fort Bellepointe, his headquarters being reached on April 24, 1819. On this journey, which covered more than five thousand miles through undisputed Indian country, he made another large botanical collection. He returned to Philadelphia by way of New Orleans. On account of this expedition he published in 1820 under the title, “Journal of Travels into the Arkansas Territory during the year 1819.”

So well known was he now as a botanist that in 1822 he was made curator of the botanical garden at Harvard College, although a professorship would have been granted him had there been sufficient funds at the time to have supported a chair. The position was not entirely what he had hoped it to be and becoming dissatisfied he took up the study of ornithology, publishing a two volume work on the subject.

About 1833 Nuttall resigned his position at Harvard and in 1834, in company with John K. Townsend, started west with an expedition to the Pacific, the two botanists being sent by the American Philosophical Society. The expedition headed by Captain Wyeth had as its destination the Oregon and upper California region.

Briefly the route taken by the party was as follows: Leaving St. Louis, Missouri, on March 29, 1834, they very soon after arrived at Independence, Missouri, to be outfitted, that town being the usual starting point for expeditions starting westward. April fourteenth found them at Fort Hall, July fifteenth on the Snake River and September third at Walla Walla. From here they went by canoe to Fort Vancouver, where nine years before David Douglas had made his headquarters.

Having reached the Pacific, Nuttall does

not seem to have remained here long, but made a trip to the Sandwich Islands, then the objective of many another western botanist. By April 16, 1835, he was back again in the Columbia region and later in the season made a second trip to the islands, spending some time there.

It was on his return from this trip that Nuttall came down into California as far as Monterey. Then learning that a ship was soon to sail for Boston he slowly made his way to San Diego, studying the trees and flowers along the way, and reached this port in time to take passage on the "Alert", the ship on which Dana was a seaman.

A stormy passage it was and evidently the professor did not get on his sea-legs for some time, or else was taking the advantage of the opportunity for study, for not until the "Alert" was preparing to make the passage of Cape Horn does Dana make this very amusing comment. "All hands were busy looking at it (land sighted)—the captain and mates from the quarter deck, the cook from his galley, and the sailors from the forecastle; and even Mr. Nuttall the passenger, who had kept in his shell for nearly a month, and hardly been seen by anybody, and who we had almost forgotten was on board, came out like a butterfly, and was hopping round as bright as a bird."

It was Staten Land they had sighted. Immediately the professor's zeal for collecting asserted itself but was doomed to disappointment, for when in great joy he mentioned to the captain the fact that he "should like to go ashore upon the island and examine a spot which probably no human being had ever set foot upon", that ruthless official promptly "intimated that he would see the island—specimens and all—in another place before he would get out a boat or delay the ship one moment for him."

This return passage was in 1836. Having arrived in Philadelphia in the fall of 1835, he settled for the next few years to the study of his specimens and the publication of several works. It is interesting to note that although handicapped in his early education, Nuttall became not only a world-famous botanist, but was a recognized authority in ornithology as well as in geology.

In December, 1842, he returned to England, where he spent the last seventeen years of his life. His residence in England was not by choice, however, but required according to the will of an uncle, who had left him an estate on condition that he reside on it during nine months of the year.

Only once in the seventeen years did he return to America, and that journey extended through the last three months of 1847 and the first three of 1848.

His death occurred on September 10, 1859, from the efforts of overstrain in opening a box.

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Gray, Asa—Scientific Papers. Vol. 2, P. 75.
Overland—N. S. 2:414-415 Early Botanical Explorers of the Pacific Coast.

Popular Science Monthly, 74:52-57. Botany at St. Louis.

Popular Science Monthly, 84:184-187. Early Geological Work of Thomas Nuttall.

THT FALL FLOWER SHOW

Continued from page 2

Class 40—Best display of asters: First, Mrs. Erskine Campbell, Point Loma; second, Mrs. A. S. Bridges, Loma Portal.

Class 41—Best display of marigolds: First, Elizabeth Shropshire, Point Loma; second, Miss Coulter, 3162 Second street.

Class 43—Best display of gladiolas: First, Charles L. Cass, Morena.

Class 44—Best display of annuals: Certificate of merit, Mrs. F. T. Scripps, Pacific Beach.

Class 45—Best display of perennials: First, Elizabeth Shropshire, Point Loma, trophy order for seeds or bulbs.

Class 46—Best basket of annuals: First, Miss Coulter, 3162 Second street, trophy, order for seeds or bulbs.

Class 47—Best new flower or plant not before exhibited: First, Mrs. Edith Williams, Sunset boulevard.

Special Class—Best display of annuals and perennials from a private garden: Special prizes, Mrs. M. Phillbrook, Lakeside, and Mrs. Edith Williams.

Section D—For Amateurs

Class 48—Best display of cut or potted fibrous begonias: First, Mr. A. D. Robinson, Point Loma, trophy, cutting basket; second, Mr. George Harbs, 2041 Julian avenue.

Class 49—Best display of tuberous begonias: First, Mr. A. D. Robinson, Point Loma.

Class 50—Best one specimen fibrous begonia.

First, Miss Elba Reeves, 4575 Marlborough drive.

Class 51—Best one specimen tuberous begonia.

First, Mr. A. D. Robinson, Point Loma.

Class 52—Best one specimen rex begonia: First, Mr. A. D. Robinson, Point Loma.

Class 54—Best specimen rex, San Diego county seedling, cross or hybrid: First, Mr. A. D. Robinson, Point Loma.

Class 54a—Best specimen tuberous begonia, San Diego county seedling: First, Mrs. John Burnham, 3027 Homer street, Loma Portal.

Class 58—Best arrangement of begonias and ferns in bowl, basket or vase: First, Miss Coulter, Second and Spruce streets; second, Charlotte Robinson, Point Loma.

Class 58a—Cut begonias: Special prize, first exhibit by Baby Marion Louise Robinson, Point Loma.

General Collection Begonias: First, A. D. Robinson, Point Loma.

Class 62a—Best flowering vine: First, Miss Coulter, 3162 Second street.

Class 62aa—Best berried vine: Especial prize, Miss Klauber, 3000 E. street.

Class 62c—Best collection berried shrubbery: First, Miss Coulter, Second and Spruce streets; second, Mrs. Herbert S. Evans, 1506 Plumosa way.

Class 65—Best bouquet of fibrous begonias: Special prize, Mrs. W. F. Hobart, Point Loma.

Class 62b—Best collection of cut sprays, flowering trees or shrubs: Award of merit, Mrs. Horace B. Day, 140 East Walnut street.

Class 63—Best dining table decoration: First, Mrs. E. B. Shropshire; second, Mrs. Marcus Miller.

Class 64—Best community exhibit from outside of city: First, Chula Vista; second, Lemon Grove.

Special Class—General display of everlasting flowers: Special prize, Parmenter's Everlasting Flower Shop.

Special Class—General exhibit of bulbs: Special prize, Harris Seed Company.

Prepare For the Bulb Show

—BUY W. S. S.—

The Cotton Plant As An Interesting Garden Ornamental.

Fred W. Herbert.

While selection of plants for the home garden depends primarily upon individual taste, it is influenced, of course, by considerations of climatic suitability, ornamental value and adaptation to the garden scheme. An influence which is evidenced in sections like this where plant possibilities have not nearly been ascertained, is that of interest in new or novel plants, particularly those of tropical introduction. Yet another consideration in the choice of garden plants, and one that is too little emphasized, is their instructive or educational value. Certainly the study in one's own garden of isolated individuals of some of the great economic plants of the world like tobacco, coffee, cotton, corn, flax, bananas and others will provide as much real pleasure as the mere showy appearance of less interesting plants and afford a clearer understanding of the industries they represent. The use of the banana in Southern California is, perhaps, an evidence of an appreciation of this fact. In windy situations near the coast where its leaves become stripped and ragged, this plant is not particularly ornamental, but it is reminiscent of the tropics and representative of a very important and popular commercial crop.

Of the plants mentioned above none is of greater interest or importance than the cotton plant. Let us briefly examine what in the way of special interest, instruction and ornamentation is offered by this plant to justify a place for it in the home garden.

As a product cotton has become so closely associated with industry that one does not wonder greatly at the impression of the northern school boy who supposed that a cotton plant was "a factory where they made cotton". Strange as it may seem, there are undoubtedly many safely intelligent people who are under the impression that cotton is artificially manufactured in some mysterious way and who have but a very vague notion of its connection with a living plant. A product so finished, so ready-made, as this beautiful white fiber certainly must have been turned out by the hand of man! The very perfection of its fruit has caused the plant itself to be overlooked. Even in San Diego, which is so close to the great cotton growing section of Imperial Valley the cotton plant is scarcely better known than in northern states where it can be grown only in green houses as a curious novelty.

The interest of the true lover of garden plants is aroused not alone by a plant's present status but by its past history and future prospects. Has not interest in the fig, olive and pomegranate, for instance, been enhanced by frequent references to them in the Bible? Is not greater interest created in the Judas Tree, or red-bud, from the story that its name is derived because it was the tree upon which Judas Iscariot hanged himself?

Few plants have as fascinating or romantic a past as cotton. It, too, is mentioned in the Bible under the name "Kirbas" (or karpas), (Esther, 1-6). Herodotus in 450 B. C. spoke of wild trees in India bearing fleeces and Theophrastus in 350 B. C. described the cultivation of cotton by the Indians. Even as an ornamental shrub the cotton plant was used in China as early as the seventh century, and in Egypt in 1592 it was "cultivated in gardens as a curious and ornamental plant." Because of its great usefulness all down through the ages, from kings and princes in India many centuries before Christ to the picturesque "fields of snowy white" of our own southern plantations, it has very appropriately been termed, "an agent of civilization". In the history of our country from the arrival of the colonists at Jamestown to the present day cotton has played an increasingly important part. "King Cotton" of our sunny south is today one of the central features of the world's commerce. Remember, then, as you contemplate your garden cotton plant that it has a fascinating history and a record of which it need not be ashamed. Truly the cotton plant can hold up its head among any of its more aristocratic neighbors.

From the standpoint of instructive value, what plant could create as much interest as cotton in the intelligent boy or girl? Attention should naturally be drawn to a plant to which they owe the clothes they wear, the pillows and sheets they sleep upon, the cloths from which they eat, the draperies and curtains which ornament their rooms, the umbrella which protects them from the rain and the vegetable oil which helps to sustain their lives. Explain these and other uses to them. Lead them to your garden cotton plant. Show them the beautiful yellow or creamy white blossom with its handsome petal spots. Show them, the next day, how this blossom turns pink and how, a little later, it drops to leave a tiny pod or boll. Have them date a tag and tie it upon the boll for themselves so that they may watch and record the number of days it takes for that boll to open and expose its wonderful white threads. Then read up on the subject yourself so that you can further explain to them the history of the cotton gin; how this soft, white lint is separated from the seeds and the processes through which it goes in the manufacture of fine fabrics; or how the seed which was formerly thrown away, is now compressed and its oil refined and prepared as an important item to human food. Recently, through the courtesy and kindness of its managers, our big cotton seed oil mill opened its doors to the school children for their instruction. How much better they might have understood what they saw there if this preliminary course had been

given them by their parents from a cotton plant in the home garden!

It is not difficult to grow a cotton plant or two in the garden. A sunny situation is more important than fertility and the plant does not require a great deal of water. Although generally cultivated as an annual, the plant is naturally a perennial and can be grown as such in San Diego. If the plant dies back to some extent in the winter it can be pruned and strong new shoots will be sent up with the coming of warmer weather.

There is sufficient diversity of form, size and general habit in the cotton varieties to serve a number of ornamental purposes. Low spreading plants can be used where sufficient ground space is available, or tall-growing tree cottons, attaining a height of fifteen feet or more, can be used for sunny corners. Color of foliage varies from a light grayish-green to very deep red, some of the latter types being quite striking. A Peruvian type now growing at Chula Vista makes a rather attractive heavy border plant that can be pruned out underneath to give a semi-arbor effect. Some of the perennial cottons can be kept pruned to about the size and shape of a medium-sized hibiscus bush.

Those who can appreciate a plant because of its performance for the good of mankind usually can see something more than utility in it. Where there is excellence of fruit there must also be high specialization of parts worthy of admiration. Few plants have performed so nobly as cotton for the human race. Surely it should have a high place in our affections. The least we can do is to have it available for our own study and that of our children, and to introduce and exhibit its manifold merits to those who are yet unacquainted.

To lead your visitor who is interested in plants around a corner in your garden to a nook where he will unexpectedly come upon a cotton plant will give him a very pleasant surprise. If the plant is in blossom he is sure to remark that he never realized that the flower was so beautiful. The immature bolls will arouse his interest and curiosity and if the bolls are open he will have an opportunity for the first time to inspect cotton as it is grown and to speculate upon one of the most romantic, interesting and important plants in the vegetable kingdom.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Continued from page 6

company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds or other securities than as so stated by him

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of September, 1921

(Seal) FRED A. SHAPLEY.
My commission expires October 23rd, 1924.

Look Ahead SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Mary A. Greer, First and Quince, Tuesday the 20th.

Subject for discussion was "Bulbs", which was taken up after the regular routine business had been gone through with, consisting chiefly of plans for the Fall Flower Show. Mr. Gorton, President, spoke briefly of the El Monte oaks project and expressed the desire, in which all agreed with him, that the said project should be put through as quickly as possible after the fall show.

Mrs. Darling, the speaker for the evening, then introduced the main topic, in which she was ably assisted by Mr. Cushman. Mrs. Darling gave interesting and explicit directions for growing bulbs, especially narcissus, in which she specializes. Mr. Cushman spoke briefly on the growing of Gladiolus, exhibiting a wonderfully prolific specimen, and gave also a large number of bulbs of gladiolus for distribution, asking that any one who secured one would make a note of the time of planting, when first above the ground, also date of blooming time. Enough bulbs of various kinds were brought for each person to have one or more for planting and growing on for the "Baby Bulb Show" to be held this spring.

Many beautiful specimen flowers were brought, among them some notably fine seedling dahlias grown by Mrs. Frank Waite.

The meeting was adjourned with all those present voicing a vote of thanks to Mrs. Greer for her hospitality and the use of her beautiful home.

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BOYS' AND GIRLS' PAGE



FERNS TO GROW INDOORS

Decorative Qualities Render Them Especially Desirable for Hanging Baskets, Fern Dishes, and Window Box Gardens—Varieties and Cultural Directions.

(Written for the United States School Garden Army)

PART I.

Ferns are among the most beautiful and interesting plants you can grow indoors. You can get the small ferns in the 3-inch pots at the florists, and then you can transplant them into larger pots or into decorative window boxes and watch them as they grow in size and beauty.

If you are making baskets out of reed or other materials you can make very attractive combinations by placing the growing ferns in hanging baskets or other forms of basketry. And if you are making metal or other chains you can make your own chains for suspending the hanging baskets.

The Holly Fern

The holly fern is one of the commonest and hardiest of house ferns. It is excellent for fern dishes if small plants are chosen. The green of the young leaves of this variety is much fresher and more attractive than that of the older leaves. Two or three young plants may be placed side by side in a fern dish or other shallow receptacle.

The crested holly fern is an improved variety in which the edges of the leaves are cut into many divisions that give the plant a very decorative effect.

The Pteris Ferns

Pteris is a Latin word. It is pronounced Teris. There are many small ferns which you will find in the plant catarogues under the name. One of the best or these goes by the Latin name *Pteris wilsoni* and is commonly called the crested fern. It is fine for a child to grow in a paper flowerpot or a good fern dish. The roots do not take up much room in comparison to the leaves. Each leaf breaks apart at the tip into a number of fingerlike branches that give the plant an interesting appearance.

The white-lined fern is another of this Pteris group that is attractive and easy to grow. It has long, white lines running along the principal veins.

The florists have lately revived a fern which in recent years has had very little attention. It is the bird's-nest fern, a native of the Far East that has long been known in England

and America to a few fern lovers. The casual observer would scarcely think of it as a fern at all, for it looks more like a miniature banana plant. There is a cluster of thick, broad, smooth margined leaves that rise around a central mossy space the size of a silver dollar so that as you look down upon the plant the suggestion of a bird's nest seems very appropriate.

The bird's-nest fern is an attractive study in the harmonies of line. Whether seen from above or below, the central vein of each leaf projects in a long prominent rib raised in a way that would show a triangle in cross section. This really gives the midrib the effect of three nearly straight lines. From each of these side lines a vast number of straight veins run in through the blade to the margin, these veins showing plainly because of the depression between them. The veins end in the smooth margins which give another effect of line. The blades are slightly wavy so that the brilliant yellow green color is reflected in varying degrees of light and shade. The plant should be grown in a receptacle that emphasizes the element of line.

Most ferns require good drainage. So the pots or boxes in which they grow should have some broken pieces of pottery above the hole in the bottom. The paper flower pots are excellent for growing the small ferns in, and are easily placed in other receptacles as they take up so little room.

Garden knowledge consists chiefly of two things—knowing plants and knowing how to make them grow. One of the best ways to learn about garden plants is to send for the catalogues which you will find advertised and then study the pictures and descriptions.

[Letters from School Children, Contributed by Agricultural Dept. San Diego Schools]

MY HOME GARDEN

My garden is a vegetable garden. There are carrots and radishes. Yesterday I planted it. All I used was a hoe, a rake and a spade. I planted my radishes three-fourths of an inch deep and my carrots one-half inch deep. There was some clover on top, so when I turned the soil over it made good fertilizer. When my garden comes up I will use it for my family. I will water it every morning and afternoon.

HORTON VOSS, 6B Lincoln.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

G. R. Gorton, Editor
Office, Court House, San Diego, Cal.

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Advertising Copy should be in by the 20th of each Month

Elite Printing Co. 945 7th St., San Diego

OUR GARDEN

October 8, 1921.

I have a vegetable garden. It is quite a big one and it grows pretty well. In it I have planted cabbage, melons, radishes, carrots and lettuce. I had corn and potatoes, too, but we ate all of them.

I have my lettuce, radishes, carrots, and cabbages, all planted in rows. I used to have the corn and potatoes in rows, too.

I planted these vegetables about two weeks ago and they are up about one or two inches tall. I planted them for the family to eat. My garden is in the sunshine from 8 o'clock to 5:30. I water my garden every day about six o'clock.

I have never found any worms or insects so far and hope never to find any. I take the weeds out every two or three days.

FANNIE CARTER, 6B No. 7.

Second of a Series of articles on Pioneer Western Botanists.

MY TWO ROWS OF PEANUTS

October 7, 1921.

I have two rows of peanuts. The plants are a foot high and they have little peanuts at their roots. When I planted them it was in the summer, and in a few days they came up. They looked like young bean plants when they sprouted.

Now they have leaves like four-leaf clover, and their flowers are just like little orange-colored sweetpeas. If the ground is too rich the peanut plants will all go to tops, and not to the peanuts. I cultivate every few days to keep the weeds out, because weeds and peanuts won't grow together. If you water them too much it might sprout the peanuts under the ground.

ALLEN SPENCER, 6B Lincoln.

Floral Association Meetings

November 15, 1921, 8 P. M.

Place of meeting—home of Mr. and Mrs. M. Kew, 3224 Park Avenue

Subject—Seedmen and the Garden

YES—FEED THE FISHWORMS!

The Richer the Garden the More Earthworms There Will Be, and the More Earthworms the More Humus—and the More Humus the More Food. Feed the Fishworms and They Will Feed You.

(Written for the United States School Garden Army)

You don't find many fishworms in a sand bank. There is nothing there for them to eat. Nor will you find many in a light, sandy soil. There is not much more to eat there than in the sand bank.

If you will put a thick layer of leaves on sandy soil and place a few fishworms on the leaves something is likely to happen. The worms will make their way through the leaves to the top of the soil. Then they will begin to eat the leaves and draw them down into the holes in the soil that the earthworms are always making. The small bits of leaves along with the small bits of soil pass through the bodies of the worms and are finally cast out as little pellets on the surface beside the holes. You can see such little piles of pellets almost any summer morning by looking in the garden.

(To be continued)

The FLOWER SHOP



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